

HUNTSVILLE UTILITIES





Electricity - Natural Gas - Water

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SEP 3 0 2003

Federal Communications:Commission Office of the Seisrolley AL 35804

September 23, 2003

Telecommunications Access Policy Division Wireline Competition Bureau Federal Communications Commission The Portals II 445 12th Street, SW, Suite 5-A420 Washington, DC 20554

In Re. Docket No 92-237, DA 03-2739

Next Meeting of the North American Numbering Council

am writing to urge you to support a nationwide three-digit telephone number for underground utility damage prevention and One Call.

Excavation damage is the leading cause of natural gas utility accidents. Most of these accidents occur because the excavator failed to contact the One Call center in advance of their work. There are many One Call centers throughout the country and each has its own phone number for its geographical territory Some states even have two or three One Call centers. Creating a national three-digit number where all calls would be automatically directed to the appropriate dialer's One Call center would save lives and reduce damages.

The ability to promote an easily recognizable national number will result in less damages resulting from those who simply did not know to dial One Call. We support the comments submitted by the Office of Pipeline Safety to the FCC on August 28, 2003

Sincerely yours.

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Jimmie L. Butler

Manager

Natural Gas Department

LETTERS 2003/NORTH AMERICAN NUMBERING COUNCIL